

### REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closet prior art of record (Brown et al, U.S. Pub. No. 2006/0106585 A1) does not teach nor suggest in detail *"a method for auto-configuring an internal network interface, wherein the internal network interface supports communication between a logical partition and other participating logical partitions of a computer, and wherein the other participating logical partitions are associated with an internal network, the method comprising:*

*determining an internal VLAN identification associated with the internal network;*

*obtaining global parameters and ranges associated with the internal network;*

*determining that the partition is participating with the internal network;*

*determining partition parameters for the partition based upon the global parameters and ranges; generating a message having the partition parameters and being associated with a network agent; and invoking the network agent via transmission of the message, the network agent being responsive to the message to configure the internal network interface based upon the partition parameters"* in combination with all the elements of each independent claim as argued by Applicant (see pages 8-10 of applicant's argument dated 07/11/2008 as well as the enabling portions of Applicant's specification, pages 5-6, and 8-13). So as indicated by the above statements, Applicant's arguments have been considered persuasive, in light of the claim limitations as well as the enabling portions of the specification.

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2. The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for the further limitations set forth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. **Claims 1-18 are allowed.** Claims 19-41 have been cancelled.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to Jude Jean-Gilles whose telephone number is (571) 272-3914. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and every other Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger, can be reached on (571) 272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3301.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-0800.

/Jude J Jean-Gilles/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443

JJG

October 23, 2008